REVENUE—(Registration).

(*No. 36.*)

SUBJECT No. 36.

Record of return of documents after registration.

Mr. C. Krishnamurthi, Law Association, Bangalore.

Summary of Discussion.—Forged documents are presented for registration, and the originals are then destroyed and copies tendered in evidence. There are instances of suits for ejectment, where copies of forged documents are produced to prove that the lease still runs. To avoid such dealings, it is desirable to obtain the signature of the party who presents the document or takes it back, or his thumb-impression in the register itself. Other remedies suggested were that the receipt books may be preserved for a period of twelve years, or that an entry may be made behind the endorsement as to the person who presented the document or received it back.

Reply of Government.—The question will be investigated and then considered.

REVENUE—(Stamps).

(*Nos. 37 to 39.*)

SUBJECT No. 37.

Reduction of the stamp duty and registration fees on documents relating to Charitable Endowments.

Mr. A. V. Suryanarayana Setty, Arkalgud Taluk.

Mr. A. V. Suryanarayana Setty.—It is prayed that the amount of stamp duty and registration fees payable on documents relating to charitable endowments may be reduced.

Second Member of Council.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 38.

Revision of Stamp and Court fees.

Messrs. C. Narasimhaiya, Heggaddevankote Taluk; H. Krishna Sastry, S. Thammaiya Gowda, Krishnarajpete Taluk, and Venkataswamiah, Mysore District Board.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya.—The increase in rates of general and court fees stamp duty as per revised Stamp and Court Fees Regulations is causing much inconvenience to the public. There is no justification for Government to make a profit out of the administration of justice. The old scale of fees was quite enough to cover all expenditure and enrich the treasury. The increased rates are quite unnecessary. It is therefore prayed that (*a*) the old scale may be reintroduced, and (*b*) only half the value of stamps may be ordered to be recovered in small cause cases. If this is not possible, stamp duty at 7½% may be ordered to be recovered.

The Second Member of Council observed that the question was one of finance. The enhanced rates were with a view to wipe out the annual deficits.

Mr. Karnick Krishna Murthi Rao pointed out that the old rate for suits for lands yielding revenue of Rs. 20 was As. 12, but the revised rate of stamp is Rs. 2. As almost all cases in Civil Courts related to suits in respect of lands of value below Rs. 1,000, the new rates worked very hard on poor people.

The Second Member of Council observed that in the case of *Kandayam* paying lands generally there was hardship and that Government would consider the question.

The Dewan pointed out that that was a money Bill and had reference to the existing financial conditions.

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